NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1877.

A DECISIVE BATTLE AT HAND IN ASIA. SERVIA PREPARING TO COME TO THE AID OF RUSSIA.

The combined forces of Russia are approaching Bardess and Olti for the purpose of stay-ing the advance of the Muscovite army Erzerum. Cossacks have already advanced to within seven hours' march of his forces. While this activity is displayed in Armenia the Russians are slowly distributing their forces on the Danube. Servia is evidently about to come to their sid, her army being in course of reorganization. It is even supposed that the Russians will make use

A BATTLE REGUN AT BATUM. THE CONFLICT NEAR THE TOWN RENEWED-THE

BUSSIANS STRONGLY RE-ENFORCED-THE TURKS LONDON, Thursday, May 24, 1877. The following is from The Daily Telegraph (pro-

Turkish journal): "BATUM, Wednesday afternoon. "There was a tremendous cannonade to-day from the Russians. A battle has just commenced. Firing is becoming general along the line. The Turkish batteries are replying vigorousl.

The utmost enthusiasm prevails among the Otto-

It is stated the Russian force assigned to the men who have just arrived from Ardaban. It is reported that the Grand Duke Michael com-

mands the attack in person. The Turks are san-ERZURUM, Tuesday Night. "The Russians are moving rapidly ferward in

the direction of the Turkish left. GENERAL PROGRESS IN ASIA MINOR. THE COMMANDER AT ARDABAN TO BE COURT-MAR-

TIALED-SCOUTS NEARING MURITAR PASHA. CONSTANTINOPLE, Wednesday, May 23, 1877 The commander of the Ardaban garrison will be conti-martialed. The Turkish official account of the taking of Ardaban admits the loss of 300 killed

LONDON, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. A Vienna dispatch to The Times says, "Ardanntsch, to which the remnant of the Ardaban garrison retreated, is on the road toward Olti and Erzerum. Retreat on Kars was already cut off by the Russians, who blocked the road at Panisew." A telegram from Constantinople adds that the "remnant" of the garrison in making its way to Ardanutsch, cut through the Russian command which endeavored to

The same telegram says the "Russians are said to have closed in upon the rear of Batum, which is once more seriously threatened."

Reuter's telegram from Erzeroum says; "The Russian left wing has advanced from Ipeck to within two hours' march of Kara-Kilisa, while an Ottoman detachment holds position at Toprak-Kaleh" [85]

Two regiments of Coscaeks are scouring the comtry around the Penck villages, within seven hours' march of Mukhtar Pasha's camp, for provisions for the Russian right wing.

Telegraphic advices state that the combined forces of the Russians are marching against Mukhtar Pasha's position at Olris and Bardes, but Mukhtar expects to be able to hold his ground.

THE WAR IN WESTERN TURKEY.

A Vienna dispatch to The Daily News says: "From Cettinje it is announced that Montenegro has post-poned the recommencement of hostilities until the Russians have actually crossed the Danube." A Ragusa telegram says: "Several Miridite insurrec tionary leaders were arrested near Glinvigne by the Turks while on their way to Montenegro to concert on action with the Prince. There is great excitement in the Miridita."

SERVIA PREPARING FOR WAR.

LONDON, Thursday, May 24, 1877. The Standard's correspondent at Belgrade repor 12 new battalions. All the reserves of the sedentary army are summoned to assemble, and all troops have been ordered to present themselves, on or be

Prince Milan will not go to Bucharest untili after the next meeting of the Skuptschine.

It is believed at Constantinople that the Russians have arranged for a passage through Servian terri-

The Servian police yesterday removed placards on the walls in Belgrade threatening Prince Milan's expulsion unless he renews the war. The general opinion in Vienna is he will do so when the Russians

The Times's special telegram from Behrrade con firms The Standard's report of Servia's military prep-

AUSTRIA AND THE WAR.

VIESSA, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. The St. Petersburg Cabinet has expressed adhesia to the views of the Austrian Government that the impediment of navigation of the Danube should only last as long as it is made absolutely necessary on account of military operations. No doubt is entertained that the Porte will likewise accede to the Views of the Vienna Cabinet.

A Vienna telegram to The Daily Telegraph an nonnees that the Austrian Covernment's attention is riveted on the increasing agitation in Hungary

The Unity News's Bucharest dispatch reports that at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning the Turks fired from Rahova at an Austrian steamer, which, after

Several shots, caught fire.

The question is being discussed in Vienna whether it is not advisable to incorporate Bosnin, Herzecovina, and Servia into one State, under an Austrian

AFFAIRS ON THE DANUBE.

Losson, Wednesday, May 23, 1877.
The Touc's [Bucharest correspondent says: "1)ctailed statements of the movements of the Russians are forbidden, but even without this restriction the movements are so silently conducted that it would

be exceedingly difficult to report them."

Seven hundred Jews, deprived of a livelihood by the closing of the mavigation of the Danube, and who are destitute, houseless, and almost starving in Widdin, have taken refuge under the walls of the fortress, in fear of bombardment.

ROUMANIAN INDEPENDENCE.

LONDON, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. The Times's Vienna dispatch says "the declaration of Romannian independence has produced yery little impression here. As for the attitude likely to taken by the Powers no conclusion can yet be formed themselves in communication with the others and ascer-

was head of Gen. Tehernaveff's staff during the Servian will first recognize the independence of Roumania, ermany, France, and Italy will follow. En cland and Austria are expected to delay recognition.

GENERAL RUSSO-TURKISH NEWS,

Constantinople, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. The Chamber of Deputies has voted a resolation demanding the impeachment of Mahmoud Neddin

THE GREAT ORIENTAL WAR. Pasha. Mahmond Neddin Pasha was Grand Vizier under Sultan Abdul Aziz, and was known as a friend of the

Russians and a tool of Gen. Ignatieff. Bestin, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. The North German Gazette states that Russia has declared to Tunis that if military or pecuniary aid is rendered to the Sultan, the Bey must prepare to see his the positions which Mukhtar Pasha holds at capital bombarded. The Tunis Government is also disquieted by the concentration of a French force on the

> LONDON, Wednesday, May 23, 1877. A Vienna dispatch to The Times says "the Sheik-ul-Islam proclaiming a holy war against Russia, and the that the departure of the Sultan for the Danube has been decided upon, would seem to show that the advice of those who all along looked upon the present struggle as one of existence for the Ottoman Empire, has gained the ascendency in the councils of the Porte."

ENGLAND AND THE WAR.

THE PEOPLE GAINING KNOWLEDGE BY THE DISCUS-SIGN-MR. FORSTER OVER-MODERATE - ME. COURTNEY IN FAVOR OF THE DISMEMBERMENT OF TURKEY-TIMELINESS OF MR. CARLYLE'S LETTER-IIIS STATEMENT BASED ON OFFICIAL

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBENE.] London, May 12.—It had been agreed by the two leaders—Sir Stafford Northeote and Lord Hartington of should not be sent to Crete, or to some other members who wanted to speak was too strong to be | Cabinet. The value of the projected scheme deman troops. The Bashi-Bazouks are preparing for resisted, and the talk is to go on next week. On the pended on the secrecy and suddenness of it. So Sir action. Everything indicates a desperate effort on whole, it is for the best it should go on. The coun- Stafford Northcote, himself against the Turkisl sault of Batum has been strengthened by 20,000 Disraeli did, or said he did, for his own party; it is and his party from shipwreck. educating them. Mr. Bagehot long since pointed baye the Anglo-Furks been so angry, yet they were out that one of the innertant functions of Parlie-obliged to bettle up their wrath. I may mention ment was its teaching function. He also said that it is the function which Parliament performs putable fact," which Mr. Carlyle said he knew, was worst; albeit better than any other Assemblyeven the American Congress! And I think anybody from the ignorance or the indifference of the coun- the primary and most momentous fact of all from Gladstone's cannot be praised too highly. He him- by making it known as he did. he certainly never made so great a speech in circumstances so unfavorable—beginning it, as he did, after two hours of struggle and excitement which would have seriously impaired the vital force of any other orator who depends—as indeed all orators must The other speeches of mark have been these

Mr. Forster, and Mr. Gourtney. On Mr. Crass's the wrong place," I have before commented. Mr. Lowe's was brilliant and bitter, but made no great impression. Forster's was able and disappointing. I have fremently said that I think Mr. Forster's knowledge of foreign affairs and judgment about them of a much broader kind than is common among English stateshad a right to expect on this Eastern question. He egan by taking a timid view. He was in the position of seeing too clearly the enormous difficulties which beset any solution. He has not taken a firm. case-at-any-price party, but his opinions have take a drab tinge from old and present associations. Atte he suffers, now as before, from what one of his critics aptly called the excesses of his fanatical moderation. In ordinary times I should lay no stress on are not ordinary times, and it unsettles the judement of many men to be told by a Liberal, so high in rank that Lord Derby has done, he is not at all care that should have said that; but even that would have been far from true. Does Mr. Forster really believe

However, Mr. Forster did criticise Lord Derby's estowed on him. The hest praise of him and h speech is their nouse. The dividing line between the Anglo-Turks and Liberals of the Forster school s clearly shown by Mr. Forster's speech. What the neutrality. He would have joined in a European oncert for the coercion of Turkey at an earlier tim but thinks the time now past. His o position to Mr. Gladstone's third and fourth resolutions is due o their policy of possible interference. He and is friends would appear, therefore, to be at one with the Government, Mr. Forster, peaking for all the last Liberal Cabinet except dr. (Hadstone, and Mr. Cross, speaking in the name of the present Cabinet, both use the same langue Both declare for neutrality. But the difference i nevertheless, very wide between them. Mr. Forster neans that his neutrality should be benevolent to Russin, Mr. Cross means to be benevolunt to Turkey. The real feelings and sympathies of the in the House and the country—are poles asunder. Even the Salisbury wing of the Ministry—the netual majority which has refused to be dragged into wararonly impartial in an imperfect and misleading sense. That is a most important distinction, it affects all the decisions that will have to be taken on all the points which the progress of the war will

Next after these three speeches, Mr. Couriney's i most important. It is inferior in ability neither to Mr. Cross's nor to Mr. Forster's, and it is important because it is a luminous and frank expesition of what the party with whom Mr. Courtie'y acts really wants. He is able to put his case without the re-strictions which, to some extent, hamner Mr. Glan-stone. He is distinctly for applying coercion to Turkey. He would restore the European concert. He would act with Russia. Turkey must be dismembered, not all at once but province by province. and the rearrangement of her territory and its form of government must be settled anew, with or without England, and it is not for the welfare of England that it should be settled without her. Mr. Courtney believes the mass of the English people would approve armed intervention. He relies, no doubt, on the recent demonstrations. The significance of those former letter-can hardly be exaggerated. But the menning of them may easily be misconceived, and it would be a strong thing to say that those who composed them had thought out the matter as clearly as Mr. Courtney, and arrived at a decision involving the risks and sacrifices of war. He, like Mr. Forster, has since his speech been made a target for Turkish arrows. It is seldom of late that anything has been seen in English journalism resembling the ferocity of the Anglo-Ottoman papers. The one which appears in the evening describes Mr. Courtney's speech as made up of "school-boy puerilities." This is the paper of which it was lately said in the | filled by day with the eternal protestations of Romes House by Mr. Forsyth that instead of being written by gentlemen for gentlemen, it seemed to be written by maniaes for fools. That is savage enough, but it's is provoked, if not excused, by the volleys of personalities and the general insolence of tone which

Colonial Secretary who sent Mr. Froude on a special mission to South Africa, and Mr. Fronde's intimacy with Lord Carnaryon has continued since that tim Mr. Fronde is one of Mr. Carlyle's nearest friends and most frequent visitors. That Lord · Carnaryon should express his apprehensions to Mr. Froude, and that Mr. Froude should repeat them to Mr. Carlyle, and Mr. Carlyle to the world-what more natural than that? Still I offer this account as purely conjectural. If I knew anything about it 1 probably should not be able to say what I knew, and I dare say I ought to apologize to Lord Carnaryon and Mr. Froude for making free with their names. I have heard it affirmed that Lord Carnaryon communicated directly with Mr. Carlyle, and that Mr. Froude had nothing to do with the matter. I have heard also that when the story was told Mr. Carlyle he was asked to consider it confidential, but refused with energy, saying: "This can be no matter of confidence. It concerns the country, and all Europe, and I shall make it as public as I can." It seems more probable that, as is very positively asserted, the information was given esly in order to be published, and to be published that very Saturday morning. For on that -that the debate on Mr. Gladstene's resolution. | political the Turkish dominions. Mr. Carlyle's letter should terminate on Friday night. But the pressure of secured the victory to the Salishury wing of the who reads the speeches of the last four nights will | fact he is presumed to have | heard | from those Gernan sources of information which are always open try permitting the Government to go wrong, either ever he may have learned from Berlin, he learned try. It must be said, at the same time, that but few | an official English source. He has done an immence of the speeches delivered are up to the mark. Mr. service to his country and to the world in general

Mr. Freeman's new volume on "The Ottoman Power in Europe, its Nature, its Growth, and its Decline" (Macmitlan & Co.), deserves more than a mere mention. But to-day I can only refer to it as a book which anybody who cares for the facts underlying the present situation must have, and quote one sentence from its preface, "The Turks in Europe," says Mr. Freeman, "answer to Lord of Mr. Cross, the Home Secretary, Mr. Lowe. Palmerston's famous definition of dirt-matter in

WAR SCENES AND TOPICS.

The Moslems have to be very good in time of war, but in Constant nople it is not easy to be good.

The review of the Russian troops at Kisch-

DEESS REFORM AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Turkish authorities at Constantinople re devolue the breate moments of war-time to the gase of millinery and dress reform. The women are omler and nurform tirt, are dyed with the most varied and factuable opious. Their yachmals, instead of form

The 56-ton breech-loader which was shown Here Kropp at the Contemnal Exhibition a year ago the defense of Constantinopie. When this gun was ex-mitted in Philadelphia it was the largest breech-loader Hallan mavy. The Prussian gunmaker is not to be out-

The jennesse dorée have gone into camp, narrow streets filled with carriages and its pavement with idlers gayly dressed. In a dozen pretty palaces "Making receives" every night, and the Chanses (the Hyde Park of the city) is full from noon till dark. The foliage of its lime avenues is exquisitely tender, and the hedges of a pule-leaved shrub are pink with flowers. with nightingales in the hours of duraness, but softly with mamma in a spiendid berlane, with a Muscovite man follows, languidly basking in the sunshine of life and love, and the pair wander apart-not very far, for The history of Mr. Carlyle's letter, with its timely warning to England of Lord Ecaconsfield's mad plans, has not been and probably will not be told authoritatively. But it is not difficult to make a plausible guess at its origin. Lord Carnaryon is one of the anti-Turk party in the Cabinet. He is also the both wear beautiful shoes too small, and neither has

RELIGIOUS CONFERENCES.

THE RAPTISTS.

A GOOD DAY'S WORK IN RAISING MONEY-NEW OFFICERS.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 23 .- This was the seend day of the annual meeting of the American Baptist Missionary Union. Dr. Robinson accepted the office

The Committee on Special Missionary Work submitted a report recommending that the cristing debt of \$47,000 be paid, not by general contraction and retrenchment of missions, or by withholding from Burmah the new mising. Adopted. The report was discussed by the Rev gate of New-York, Samuel Colgate of New-Jersey, the Rev. Dr. Dickinson of Virginia, and others. Robert O. Fuller of Massachusett

o, was chosen as the place for the next and the Rev. Henry E. Robbins to breach rmon, with the Rev. John Peddis, D. D., as alternate.

PRE-BYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Baltimonic, May 23 .- In the Methodist Prot-

THE PEKIN WHISKY RING.

A FRESH RESORT TO BE MADE BY THER TO SECURE THE REMOVAL OF OFFICIALS, INVILLEGATES TO THE TREETINGS

Perin, Ill., May 23.—The Pekin Whishy Ring was defeated recently at Washington in artempts displace certain prominent chickets in the VIIIth Dis-

VASSAR COLLEGE NOTES.

Poughkeepsie, May 22,-The Commencement appointments at Vassar for the present year have been given out as follows; Class day honors-Oration Mass S. F. Sheppard; Class History, Miss M. Stoyell; In dividual History, Miss A. H. Dama; Address at the Tree, Miss Mary Thaw, Commencement honors-Valedicto rian, Miss L. J. Wylle; Salutatorian, Miss C. P. Switt Essayists, Misses F. A. Adams, G. E. Bitss, E. B. Culbert son, A. W. Hariow, R. B. Jacobs, S. A. Miller, M. Whip-ple, and L. Wood. Miss A. H. Johnson has been elected Chile day Marshal, and Misses Logan, Burnsey, Cornwell Grant, and Leach the Committee of the Day. Commence ment week begins on Sunday, June 24, when Presiden Raymond will deliver the Baccalaureate sermon. Mor day evening will be given up to the closing concert. Tuesday to the class exercises, reundons, &c., and Wednesday, June 27, to the exercises of Commencement

Vassar will enjoy an entertainment on Saturday even ing of this week in the form of a moonlight exeursto upon the Hudson. Capt. Anderson of the Mary Powell has invited the whole college-students, teachers, profes-sors, "preps," and all—to a sail among the Highlands. The beat will leave Poughkeepsie at 6 p. m., descend th river to West Point and perhaps a little further, and re-

A GENERAL FIELD DAY AT DARTMOUTH.

Hanover, N. H., May 23 .- The Spring meetng of the Dartmouth Athletic Association opened this iftermoon. There was a large gathering of students, faculty, aistam, and residents of this stid neighboring towns For throwing the heavy hammer, 19 pounds weight, there were four competitors. William W. Prescott, a senior, was the victor, throwing the hammer 78 feet 6 inches. Frederick W. Shattuck made the best in three jumps, making 29 feet 24 inches. In the two heats of 100 yards dash, the first was won by Thomas Fbnt, a tied; time, 1112 seconds; the second by Charles H. Cogswell, a freshman, in 114 seconds. The flual trial will be made to-morrow. For putting the shot, 19 pounds weight, there were four competitors. Wm. W Prescott was the winner, throwing the shot 31 feet 3% inches.

WASHINGTON TOPICS.

A CONSULTATION AT MOUNT VERNON,

A visiting committee appointed by the Govther of Virginia, consisting of Lieut. Gov. Thomas, Fitzhagh Lee, Gen. Keem, and Mrs. Rixie, called upon the members of the Ladies' Asso-cation at Mount Verson to-day, in accordance with the annual custom, for consultation. The association, which is composed of one lady from each State in the Union, has now under consideration ix distinct propositions from steamboat owners who are competing to furnish transportation to Mount Vernon.

ANONYMOUS PERSECUTION OF A JUDGE. Several days ago a letter was received by

Secretary Evarts is preparing a letter to

tor attention to the law of 1853 fixing payment for advertising by the folio at absurdly low rates, and the apinon of the Attenney General that it is in force. Those the are unwilling to print public advertisements at loss rates are requested to send their views of fair rates of the department.

merrow morning for another Southern tour. They will be accompanied by Postmuster General Key and Messre, Various Man hell, and be some eight or ten days. They will visit Lynciblerg, Donville, Charlette and Atlanta, mater their return will stop at Chattanoogn and Bristo. The Supervising Inspector-General of Steambouts, who The Supervising Dispector terminal of Scandish, has been communing the charges ancient Peter J. Ralph, supervising in sector of the District, for violations of section 4.416 or the Egypsed Statutes, has under report a Secretary Sherman, in which he decided that the charges are not maintained.

Another throng visited the Executive Mansion to-day, ed numbers of the visitors saw the President. Two or

their views to the President.

The President has appeinted Edward P. Johnson
Attorney for the Territory of Wyoming, vice Richard A.
Watts, resigned, and Gabra C. Whatten Attorney for the
President Reinford, vice M. F. Fintey, removed.

ather is fast finding a cale in Germany, and that it will Bids for stationery flor the Department of the Interior

or the fiscal year beginning July I next, will be opene morrow at mose. The department uses from \$25,000 a \$30,000 worth per year. Secretary Everts responds that in view of our neutrality abdirations the department cannot render my assistance toward procuring situations in the Russian medica

it is hardly probable that a neutrality proclamation George H. Hoker, Muister to Russia, has resigned,

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE EMMONS. Memphis, May 23.—The Memphis Bar Asso ciation today adopted resolutions of respect to the mem-ory of Judge H. H. Emmons of the United States Circuit Court, and condoleuse with its lamity. They were spread upon the minutes of the court.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—A circular has been sent and the indires rested by the Big Beard asking information ato reducing expenses on the Country's lode. BALTIMORE, May 23.—The first race here to-day Printa of LPHIA, May 23.—The carpet weavers in & J. Debson's mills, who have been on strike for a month counce work yesterday. All the booms are now running.

Boston, May 23.-At Mystic Park to-day, Lady

TRENTON, N. J., May 23.-The State Medical

POUGHKEEPSIE, May 23 .- At the Hudson Driving Park races to day, fasty Mills won the 2/31 race for \$700 in 2/20, best time; seemer second. Powers won the 2/45 race for \$600, in best time, 2/33; Planton second. The 2/37 race for \$900 was won by Alley, Pavorite second, Columbia Chief thirt; best,4me 2/29.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 23.-In the half-mile race

AN ASSASSIN'S SHOT.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF G. W. HOLCOMB. NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH-A STARTLING STORY OF DOMESTIC MISERY AND BITTERNESS-MR.

HOLCOMB ACCUSES HIS SON, A bold attempt was made about 11 o'clock on Tuesday night to assassinate George W. Holcomb he lay in bed on the first floor of his residence at No. 15 Tenth-ave, with a friend named F. E. Cunningham. The attempt, in the opinion of Mr. Holcomb, was made by one of his own sons, or by some person who was hired by them to take his life. The motive, he thinks, was to get the reputation of his wife, from whom he has been separated for a long time, might not be made public. Mr. Holcomb's room is in the small two-story frame

house, at No. 15 Tenth-ave., and the window through the head of the best touching the wall beside the window. when suddenly they heard the blind opened, but paid by a boy living in the same house, who came the sound of a pistol and the ball crashing through the window-nanc, just missed the breast window and looking out saw the form of a man running few minutes Officer Ward of the Charles Street Police responded. The man whom they had seen running away and his companion closely, and were told a remarkable story, which covered a period of seven years, revealing

About seven years ago he and his wife lived happily to and fluxlly brought a suit for divorce. This so preved upon the mind of Mrs. Campbell that she became melanrestitence at Sixth-ave, and Forty-sixth-st

NEWBURGH, N. Y., May 23.-Henry W.

sculptor, and will speak in the Unitarian Church in this city on Sunday.